

Underhill Invasive Species Task Force Minutes--DRAFT

Tuesday, Sept 10, 2019, Underhill Town Hall, 7:00 - 8:30

Note: Action items in **red**

- **Meeting Called to Order:** 7:02
- **In attendance:**
 - **UCC:** Karen McKnight, Daphne Tanis, Dan Steinbauer
 - **Community Members:** Steve Webster
 - **Collaborators/Guests:**
- **Reviewed Meeting Norms:**
 - Start and end on time
 - Have respectful discussions
 - Don't interrupt
 - Stay on topic
 - Adhere to Roberts Rules
- **Public Comments--None**
- **Approval of the 8/26/2019 Minutes--Postponed to the next meeting**
- **Clarified Task Force (TF) role, who is a "member" of the TF, and who has voting rights:**
 - TF is an advisory group to the Underhill Conservation Commission (UCC)
 - We are exploring making the TF an official subcommittee of the UCC
 - TF makes recommendations to UCC re invasives, working on part of the mission of the UCC
 - TF organizes work parties
 - TF focuses on education re invasive species (public and road crew)
 - TF inventories invasive species in the Town
 - Membership
 - Conservation commission & community members
- **Work Party Update--skipped as we had just updated the UCC**
- **Strategies and Plan:**
 - **Workshop Update:**
 - Sabina Ernst was not able to attend the meeting but emailed that neither Elizabeth Spinney nor Andrea Broadstreet could do a workshop this fall
 - **Japanese Knotweed:**
 - The TF concluded that we are unable to get enough volunteers to make manually eradicating knotweed feasible, in general
 - Will focus on:
 - Patches that threaten waterways
 - New, unestablished patches
 - Limiting the expansion of established patches
 - **Need to work on other species (honeysuckle, buckthorn, purple loosestrife, etc.)**
 - **Update about what we've done and we've learned**
 - FPF, Mountain Gazette, present to UCC
 - Present to Selectboard
 - Need to educate how knotweed (in particular) is being spread via earth moving
 - Need to discuss our work on other species (especially honeysuckle in CBCD)
 - Brainstormed an outline for a presentation Selectboard:
 - Why we're presenting to the Selectboard

- Why are we concerned
- Work we did on knotweed
- Work on honeysuckle
- Other species
- Moore Park
 - MMUHS students, Peter/Karen/Steve
- Bring samples
 - Knotweed anatomy (stalks, crowns, rhizomes)
- Management and control
- How invasives spread
- Impact on waterways, fishing, erosion, biodiversity
- Steve will create a shared Google Doc so we can all contribute to the presentation
- Adjourned 8:02